Gladstone Theatre Courtyard

Presents

in honour of Gladstone's 125th

HISTORICAL BUILDINGS OF GLADSTONE

Self Guided Tour

Introduction

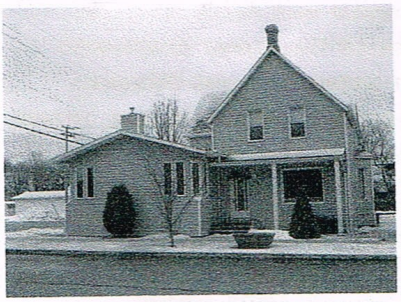
As we celebrate 125 years of the existence of the town of Gladstone, let our thoughts return to earlier days. In 1871 Donald Ferguson had been the very first to set foot on the land called Palestine, the earlier name to this settlement, to make his choice of homestead. The First Nations Peoples of the area had been resettled on reserves giving access to those who would come west. The province of Manitoba, established in 1872 with its boundary just seven miles to the west, had been surveyed, the railroad was on its way, and excitement about this new land was being felt throughout eastern Canada and Europe. Within a few short years business was booming in Palestine, even as there were arguments about where the town centre would be located. Here at the third crossing of the Whitemud River, along the Saskatchewan Trail, in the years immediately following 1882, could be found churches, a school, a post office, the largest department store west of Winnipeg, banks, hardware stores, a brickyard, lumber yards, grocery stores, druggists, doctors, blacksmiths, a dance hall, hotels and much more. Imagine, if you would, the activity in this town, as it was renamed Gladstone, and as the following buildings, identified in this brochure, were being erected.

While we attempted to research all of the historical buildings, we apologize to those we may have omitted.

We are thankful to the many people who contributed to the compolation of this booklet, especially those who maintain the historic memory of our community and freely share their stories.

#1 – Hwy 16 West

Among the original group of settlers to arrive by covered wagon and oxcart in Palestine, as Gladstone was first called, was James Broadfoot and a year later his wife, nee Isabella Ferguson. Part of their homestead became town land. On New Years night in **1884**, a grand housewarming occurred with guests from surrounding communities dancing till dawn. Duncan and Margaret are the fourth generation of Broadfoot's living in this house.



#2 - 102 W Dennis

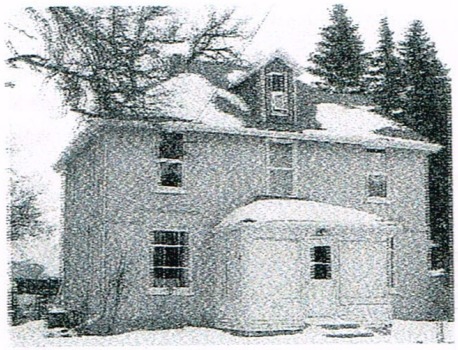
This house, actually made of brick, was built in **1902** on the property of Wm Eccles. He had established a business in 1890 as a blacksmith, carriage builder and repairer of machinery. Current owners Bob and Eileen Clarke purchased this home and the adjacent Funeral Home from John and Jean Hammond in 1972. During the 1960's part of the house was used as a funeral home. The exterior was redone in 1989 for energy efficiency.

#3 - 125 W Dennis

Built in **1883** and possibly the second oldest house in Gladstone, it was originally the Anglican Church rectory until 1951. While doing renovations, the owner, Essie Douglas, discovered 16-inch fir planks in the walls, square nails and insulation of brown paper bags and newspaper.

#4 - 47 E Dennis

The date of 1902 is carved into the cement on the cornerstone of this house. Known as the Bickle House, it originally belonged to A.T. Andrews, a druggist who came to Gladstone in 1892. But when Andrews left in 1903, the house was bought by James Foster who then traded it a year later to H.J.Bickle, a harness maker. Though the Bickles lived there for only four years it is still often referred to as the Bickle House. It is presently owned by Terry and Barb Karaz.

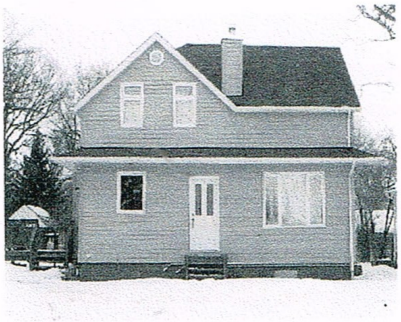


#5 - 75 E Dennis

The first owner was Allan Collins, the manager of Galloway Brothers Department store. He and Richard Diamond eventually bought that store and it became Collins and Diamond. The house was built in 1905 with local bricks from Wilson's brickyard. Mr. Crawford, the town lawyer lived here for many years. Present owners are Bunny and Dave Eidick

#6 - 90 E Dennis

Magnus Wilson moved to Gladstone in 1889 and bought the island in 1896 from John Kerr, with a vision of building a house in the style of the Laird in Scotland. He owned the brickyard but made a special mould for the bricks for his house. The interior woodwork is all oak from his land near by. The house was completed in 1905. Magnus was a blacksmith, a carriage maker and at one time owned the Revere House, which was a hotel on the corner of Morris and Dennis. Bricks at that time were $1.00 per 1000. Three generations of the Wilson family have lived here. The present owners are Dorothy and Robert Wilson.



#7 – 119 E Dennis

This house was built in **1900** by George McCrae. He came with the very first group of settlers. George seemed to be involved in many things, including owning the Queens Hotel with his brother James. He was a farmer, had a cheese factory and did some cattle buying. The land he homesteaded is still in the family and owned by his great grandnephew, Jim Younger. The house in town is owned by Sheila and Craig Douglas.

#8 - 129 E Dennis

Jim Mowat came to Canada in 1889 and joined the staff of Galloway Store. Jim had a slaughterhouse and as a butcher, he helped to fill the large contracts for beef for the railway gangs. He built his house in **1900**. He also purchased a farm from Chris Fahrni, which is now operated by the fourth generation of Mowats. The house is presently owned by Linda Crooks.

#9 - Morris South (corner of Morris and Highway #16)

Albert Clayton had his brick house built by Ben Lobb in **1903**. He had come to Canada with his family in 1869 and moved to Golden Stream in 1874. His first house was north of Gladstone. He owned a butcher shop for a while, and then purchased the farm south of Gladstone. As the town property was one square mile this house is located on the southern edge. Four generations of Claytons have lived here and it is presently owned by Brian and Fran Clayton.

#10 - 89 S Morris

Dan McLean came in 1880 and was a clerk in McQueen's general store. He also taught school at Woodside for one year, operated a hardware store and then became County Court Clerk. When Dan planned to be married, Peter Newcombe took the contract to build this house for him in 1901. It is told the house was never locked but had a guest room open day and night for train travelers. Lyle and Edna Stewart moved into this house in 1985 and Edna still resides here.

#11 - 81 S Morris

Cyril Jessop, a photographer who came in the early 1900's lived here. He had his studio in the Age Press building which was located at that time where the TNT Fitness now stands, near the first Alhambra Hotel. It is believed Jessop's home was built in 1902. Joe and Bea Fraser are the present owners.

#12 - 57 S Morris

This house was built in about 1895. Known as the Ross Prosser house, it is one of the oldest houses in Gladstone. It was occupied and possibly built by Edmond Bowman, a veterinary surgeon. In its restoration, the owners have found square nails – a sign of early construction. Ashley Palmer is presently living here.

#13 - 43 S Morris

E. J. Cresswell built this house for the Presbyterian Church in 1907. It was the United Church manse until it was bought by Dr. Cottrill. The floor plan of the main floor includes two sets of stairs, a feature found in some of the earlier homes. Ted and Shelly Pohl presently own it.

#14 - 61 N Morris

The actual date of construction has not been found but a niece, Lulu Bond tells of staying here, at Will and Annie Bond's in 1900 while her family waited for a place to live. Will Bond came in 1892, first worked for Williams Bros. then ran his own hardware and machinery business. Presently Vi Anderson and her son Brian are living here.

#15 - 76 N Morris

A man by the name of Raincock built this house in 1900. He and Morfitt, two enterprising businessmen of their day, started the Gladstone Bargain Store in 1895, which sold clothing, shoes and groceries and was located in what is now the Paris Café. The house on Morris is now owned by Ross and Vivian Stewart.

#16 - 31 Third

This house was the first one built by E. J. Cresswell. He had worked for Charlie Knox for two years and then built this house for him, as he started up his own business. The house was later occupied by Bert Miller, a tailor. Apparently Miller had some of the rural women who wanted to attend high school in town, living there, receiving board and room for work in his sewing business. It is presently owned by Rob and Jessica McKinley.

#17 - 51 Third

John Jacob came to Gladstone in 1893. It is believed that he was a mail carrier and also an auctioneer. He built the house in 1898 and raised a family of six boys. The eldest, Robert, became a lawyer, articling to T.L.Morton and marrying Margaret Morton. In 1927 Fred and Verta Mowat bought this home and lived here for many years. Dave and Pat McKinley presently own it.

#18 - 47 Saskatchewan

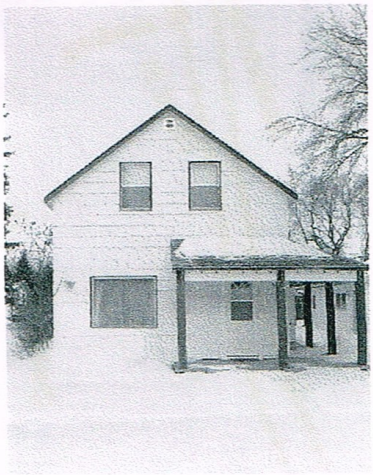
John Ferguson arrived with the first group of settlers in 1871 to take out a homestead. He lived in town most of the year; married Miss Moncrief in 1880 and they had two children, Maggie and Crief. The house was built in 1900 and eventually bought by Earl Stout. It is presently owned by the Broadfoot family, grandchildren of E.A.Stout.

#19 - 99 Saskatchewan

William Williams had this house built in 1898, possibly **1897**. He was in the implement business with his brother A.G. Williams, starting the business known as Williams Bros. Hardware. It may be more familiar as the B. L. MacKenzie house – remember the beautiful flower garden? It is presently owned by Vince and Fiona Kramer.

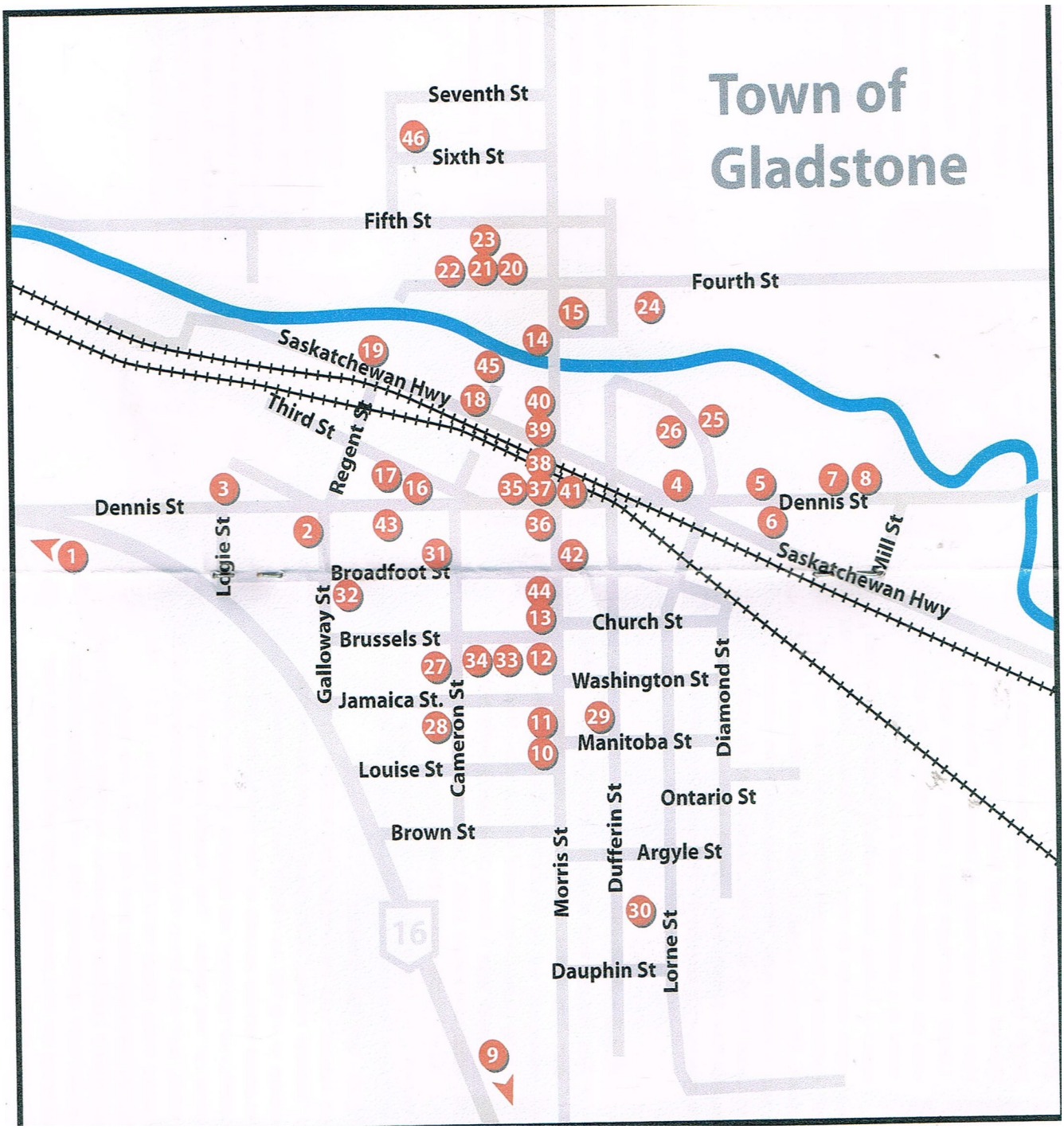
#20 - 23 Fourth

This is known as the Pete Williams house. He ran the furniture store and mortuary in the Williams Bros. hardware store. He was one of "Gramma" William's sons. It is thought that this house was built before **1903**. It is presently a summer home for a granddaughter, Eileen Milne.



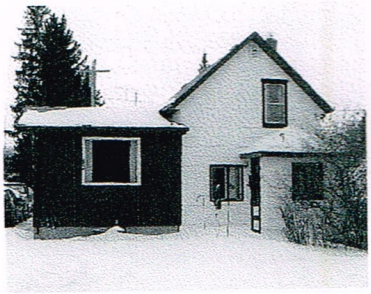
#21 - 33 Fourth

One of the early settlers, James Anderson lived here. McNair and Anderson took over the Williams Bros. Hardware Store in 1911. He had a term as mayor and was also a councilor. It is believed that this house was built in **1895**. A third generation of Kerrs, Kim and Kathy Kerr presently own this house.


Town of Gladstone
Seventh St
Sixth St
Fifth St
Fourth St
Saskatchewan Hwy
Third St
Regent St
Dennis St
Lajoie St
Broadfoot St
Galloway St
Brussels St
Jamaica St.
Cameron St
Louise St
Brown St
Church St
Washington St
Manitoba St
Diamond St
Ontario St
Dufferin St
Morris St
Argyle St
Lorne St
Dauphin St
Mill St
16

#22 - 43 Fourth

When Silas Williams died on his farm in the Ogilve district, the sons built this house for their mother – "Gramma" Williams, in 1903. Whether they were taking care of her or whether she was keeping an eye on them is a mystery. One son, Arnold had built a large brick house where Riverside Residence is located. It was later owned by the Stout family, became the hospital and then the RCMP barracks. Williams Park is on land that he donated. Another of her sons, William, lived in the B.L.McKenzie house directly across the river and a third son, Pete, had built his house at 23 Fourth. Gramma Wiliams lived to be 97, well cared for by her daughter Margaret. Nurse Holtom spent her last years here, living to be a good age. The home is presently owned by Michael and Serena Suderman.



#23 - 42 Fifth

This house was built by Ben Lobb in 1897 but it is not known if he lived there. However we do know that Charlie Winton, lived here, followed by his son, Hector. Charlie was a town constable with that position from 1921 to 1940. Hank and Betty McIvor moved into it in 1957 and Betty is presently living there.

#24 - 56 Bay Street

This house has an interesting history. It was built by Thomas Madill who came to the district as a farmer in 1879. In 1882 they lost three children within hours in the diphtheria epidemic. Shortly after that he bought the half section north of the river. The house was built in 1900, but was sold to Donald Adamson in 1913. Donald then sold to J.K.McLennan in 1921. He will be remembered for his dairy and milk deliveries and the beautiful flower gardens that ran from his home all the way out to Morris Ave. It has been passed through two more generations of McLennans – Art who ran the Age Press for years and Art's son Kerry.

#25 - 26 Hyde Park Crescent

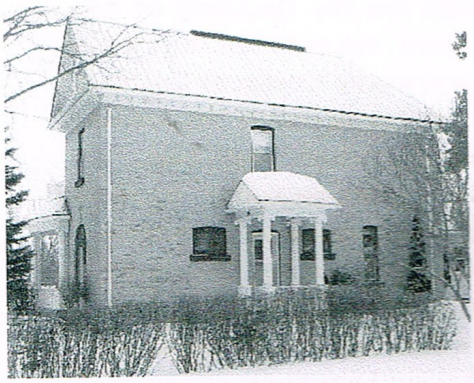
The original owner was Wm. Galloway of the firm, Galloway Bros. His brother Roper built a house beside him where Crescent Lodge is presently located. The house at 26, on the crescent was built in 1898. When Mrs. Galloway became ill, her daughter, Sadie and family, the Cecil Wilsons moved in to care for her. Upon the death of the Galloways this became the home of the Wilson family. It is now owned by Glen and Louise Emerson.

#26 - 45 Hyde Park Crescent

This is sometimes known as the McAlpine House. It was built by the Williscroft brothers in 1905. Joseph McAlpine bought the Malcolm Hotel in 1887 but soon built a newer one, the Hyde Park Hotel, in 1900. It eventually became the Traveller's Hotel. Some of the construction material for the house on the crescent was recycled from the hotel. With such excellent lumber, the stringers run the long way throughout. The basement walls are two feet thick and made of field stone. In more modern times, the house was bought by the school board and was lived in by teachers and principals. John and Mary Spek have lived here since 1960.

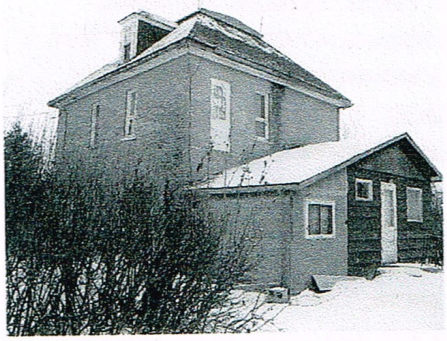
#27 - 65 Cameron

The Age Press says that Mr. Newcombe bought the house and lot in April 1887. Mr. Newcombe was the first town policeman and the first blacksmith. It is told that he was a strong man who carried his anvil on his back, as he walked from Portage to Gladstone. They came early and lived long – together for 67 years. The house is built on a stone foundation and is presently owned by Ross and Edna Hunter.



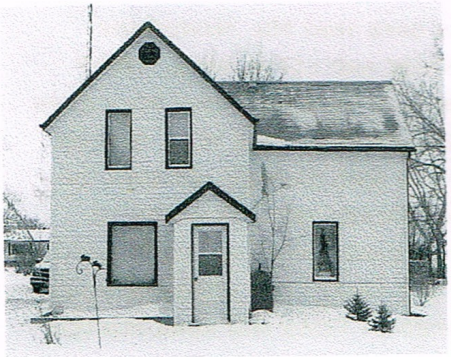
#28 - 81 Cameron

The house was built in 1904 by real estate agent, T.E. Nichols, at a cost of $4800. However he went bankrupt and did not have the funds to finish it. Dr. Rose, whose father, E. Rose was the first postmaster, took over the finishing of the house. Dr. E.W. Rose was a well-respected citizen, one of the early mayors and raised his family here until he died. In 1946 the house was bought by Fred and Jean Fahner. Jean is still living in her home.



#29 - 73 Dufferin

The date of construction is not certain but the Williscroft brothers came in 1884. They built many homes and bridges in the area. Ben Williscroft built this one for himself. An avid curler, Ben was probably a charter member of the curling club, which was organized in 1893. Andrew Kerr and Mary Williscroft-Kerr moved into it in 1907. It is now owned by Jeffrey and Kitty Chartrand.



#30 - 146 Dufferin

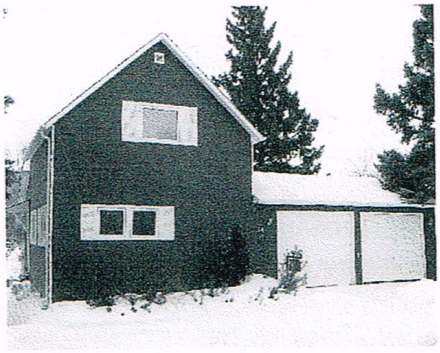
Ben Lobb, a plasterer, built this house in 1900. It is better known as the Pinn house. Mrs. Pinn was a Collins of the Collins and Diamond Department Store. Ernie and Charlynne Tester presently own the house.

#31 - 51 Broadfoot

The King brothers, Ralph and Claude, came to the community in 1895 as excellent bricklayers. Ralph built this house in 1900. It was once the Dewar house and an extension was added. Chris and Crystal Chandler live here now.

#32 - 86 Broadfoot

Claude King built this house in 1900. In 1907 the brothers moved on West to the building boom in Dauphin. They were responsible for many orders of bricks to be filled at the Wilson brickyard and shipped north on the new railway line. Soon after they left, the place was bought by Donald and Nina Adamson. Jeff and Tracy Stewart are living there now. Their father Ross Stewart has restored the house to its original beauty.



#33 - 14 Brussels

This house was built for Peter St. Claire McGregor, father of Wilfred McGregor, in 1878. That makes this home the oldest that we know of, in Gladstone. Peter was the first mayor of Gladstone in 1882. A year later he brought his new bride, Eleanor Grose to town on a special train to their new home at this address. R.M.Strachan, secretary-treasure of the town for 25 years, bought the house in 1914 for $1200, taking out a mortgage with payments of $5.00 per month. Anne Hunt presently owns the house.

#34 - 22 Brussels

We think this house was built in 1900, possibly earlier, but the original builders are unknown. A village blacksmith, Mr. Black lived here, followed by the manager of the Bank of Montreal, know as Banker Smith. The present owner Gail Goertzen and her deceased husband, Clarence Eastcott, bought it from Mrs.Mernie Jackson. Gail has lived here for 42 years.

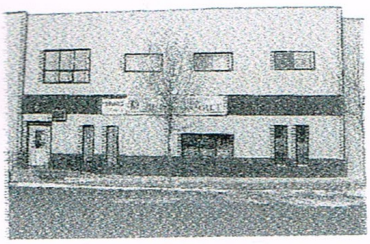
BUSINESSES

#35 - 13 W Dennis

Since being built in 1901 this building has seen many businesses. It was originally Bennet's Feed Store, housed the Age Press from 1904 to 07, was a hat store for a milliner, Miss Pauline Sample, was B.L. MacKenzie's store, Lyle Cox's Electrical Shop, Radio Shack and is now owned by Jason and Deanna Otto.

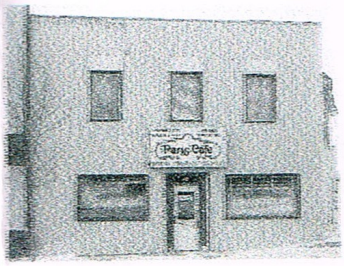
#36 - 5 N Morris

Gladstone Bakery was actually built in the late 1870's, making this the oldest known building in town. It was originally on Saskatchewan and James Ave. as J.A. Davidson and Hamilton general store. In 1881, Galloway Bros. bought it to become their first store. Then in 1889 the Knox Bros. purchased it and moved it to the corner of Dennis and Morris as their furniture store. In 1904 the Merchants Bank took it over and did extensive renovations. It will be fondly remembered as Dewar's Bakery and still produces the best bread in the world, baked daily by owners Perry and Dawn Coubrough.



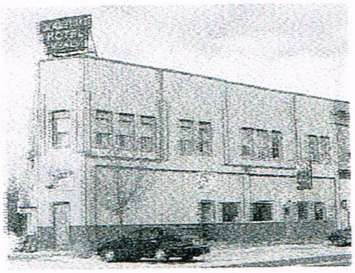
#37 - 9 N Morris

Originally known as the Gabriel Building, built in 1902, it was two stores, Young's General Store and Massey Manufacturing. Later it was owned by D.B. Hembroff; there was a billiard room and barber shop here. Folks may remember barbers: Stan Stewart, Kennedy, Joseph Creamer, Charles Eccles and Reg Jacob. In 1950 it was taken over by Ed Schellenberg and the centre wall removed to make it one store. It presently serves the community well as Gladstone Supermarket, owned by Dave and Karey Thiessen.



#38 - 13 N Morris

Who does not remember with fondness – Choy's. But it was not always a restaurant. It was built in 1882 at the same time as the first railway. A.T.Andrews, the druggist, owned it. It is believed W.S.Bailey financed the building of it. It has been a butcher shop, has housed Bailey's banking business, was the Gladstone Bargain House, and had a meeting space and dance hall on the second floor. Alex Dewar started his bakery here. B.L.MacKenzie had his first store here. But in 1939 Choy Don arrived to start his restaurant business. Two generations of his family followed him. Presently it is owned by Wing and Lan Wong and is still well known for excellent Chinese food.



#39 - 29N Morris

Ernie Cresswell had the contract to build Williams Bros. Hardware on this location in 1902. Within that business they had implement sales which provided many plows, binders and mowers for the new settlers. They also had a dentist office, furniture sales, organs and pianos, threshing outfits, binder twine, and funerals and embalming. It was one of the largest implement businesses in the west. When they dug the basement they spread the earth on Morris Avenue to build up the road. Later the Alhambra Hotel which had been across the street and was destroyed by fire was located here. It is now the Gladstone Hotel, owned by Mohammed Shalwani.

#40 - N Morris

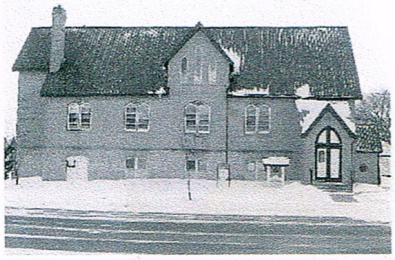
In 1881, before Gladstone was even incorporated, Galloways established their business, located on two other sites before building the largest retail store west of Winnipeg in 1902. It was two stories plus a mezzanine floor. The upper floor had washrooms, millinery, dressmaking, women's lingerie and clothing. The main floor had fabric, notions, men's clothing, a shoe department, some jewellery, dishes and houseware, groceries and candy. There was a staff of thirty employees. For a few years this was a McLeod's store. This historic building is presently being restored.

#41 - 8 Morris

The Bailey Block was built by W.S. Bailey and H.J.Bickle in 1896. Bickle had his harness shop there and Bailey moved his banking business to this location for a time. In 1897 Dave Smith, Sr. had his law office there. Don Kinley, the present owner, has a certificate on the wall dated 1913 for Dave Smith and John Broadfoot, Brokers. Stan Fahrni had his office here and a grocery store passed through a few hands. Remember Stan Howard and Cliff Brooks? The upper level housed a doctor's office. Lawyer Crawford's office was located here.

#42 – 9 Wellington St.

This building was first built in 1887, located on Cameron and was the first Anglican Church. When the congregation grew too large, the new church was built and this became the Orange Hall. It was used as a classroom for a time when the old school burned. Then it was a residence for a time and was finally moved to Morris to become a blacksmith shop. Lorne Hunt presently owns it.



#43 - All Saints Anglican Church

The Anglicans held their first services in the outdoors or in Andrews Hall above the present day Paris Café. Ernie Cresswell had the contract to build All Saints Anglican Church in **1904** when the congregation grew too large for their first building. The land was donated by T.L.Morton; the cost of construction was $11,000. The first minister of the Gospel was Rev. Thomas Cook who traveled to and from Fort Ellice on the Carleton Trail, sometimes known as the Saskatchewan Trail.

#44 – 33 S Morris Gladstone United Church was built as a Presbyterian church in **1893**. The first services had been held at the home of Rev. McNabb on the banks of Dead Lake. When he retired he donated the land for the cemetery. The congregation had been using a log structure that was severely damaged in a windstorm. The first bible donated by Mr. Prettie, survived the storm and can still be seen in the church. The new building was constructed on land donated by James Broadfoot and became United at union in 1925. The annex was added in 1939 and some renovations had to be done after the fire in 1952. The first minister in the new building was Munroe. The first wedding in October, 1901, was a triple wedding. The couples were Christine McLennan and Dan McLean, Annie McLennan and Herbert Wilson, Nellie Malcolm and Dan McLennan.

#45 - Gas House

Another interesting building is the Gas House located by the river at the north end of James Street. It was built in **1904** by E.J.Cresswell to house the gas company, which supplied lighting to some homes and five streetlights. Someone on horseback would light these every evening. After hydro came it was used for a livery stable and for a time was a morgue.

#46 - 49 Sixth Street, Gladstone Museum

The CNR Depot was built in **1901**. The CP rail line originally called Manitoba and North Western RR, Portage to Gladstone, arrived in 1882 and was extended to Minnedosa in 1883. It was later leased to Canadian Pacific for 999 years. The CN known as Lake Manitoba and Canal Co arrived in 1897. Note: it is the one that runs closest to the Paris Café, which had already been built. The depot, now the Gladstone museum had a furnished dining room in 1903 to feed the passengers, as there were no dining cars on the train in the early years.

Published By Julie Clarke 2007

GLADSTONE & DISTRICT MUSEUM

6TH ST

Open July & August

SATURDAY & SUNDAY
1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.

OR BY APPOINTMENT
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ON FACEBOOK*